

THE USE OF A TOWN CROSS.—Towns are places where travellers rest, all men are travellers, or may be, or should be. It would add much to general accommodation, if in the centre of our provincial towns were to be a pedestal or monument, whereon should appear various local information; on each of four faces the distances to other towns, as is done at Dereham, in Norfolk; also the means of travelling, whether by coach or railway; the time of arrival and departure, and the fares.—*Bury and Suffolk Herald.*

The new Royal Academicians, elected in place of Mr. Thomson, is Mr. J. P. Knight.

Current Prices of Metals.

London, February 16, 1844.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
SPELTER—Foreign, ton	22	5	0	22	10	0
For delivery	0	0	21	0	0	0
ZINC—English sheet	0	0	30	0	0	0
QUICKSILVER	per lb.	0	4	6		
IRON—English bar, &c.	per ton	3	0	0		
" Nail rods	0	0	6	0	0	0
" Hoops	7	5	0	7	10	0
" Sheets	0	0	0	0	0	0
" Cast in Wales	0	0	4	5	0	0
" Pig, No. 1, Wales	0	0	3	5	0	0
" No. 1, Clyde	0	0	2	5	0	0
" For Swedish	10	5	0	10	5	0
" Russian, c&nd	16	10	0			
" " F&I	0	0	0			
" " Gourieff	0	0	0			
" " Archangel	0	0	0			
STEEL—Swedish	18	5	0			
" " Fagot	0	19	0			
COFFER—English sheathing, lb.	0	0	91			
" Old	per lb.	0	0	81		
" Cake, per ton	0	0	88	0	0	0
" Tile	0	0	86	0	0	0
" S. American	0	0	77	0	0	0
TIN—English, blocks, &c. cwt.	3	12	0			
" Foreign, Banca	0	0	3	6	0	0
" Straits	0	0	3	5	0	0
" Peruvian	0	0	3	0	0	0
Tin plates, No. 1C, p. box	1	4	0	1	4	0
" No. 1X	1	10	0	1	14	0
" waste, p. box less						
LEAD—Sheet metal	p. ton	17	15	0		
" Shot, patent	0	0	19	15	0	0
" Red	0	0	21	10	0	0
" White	0	0	23	10	0	0
Pig-LEAD—English	0	0	16	15	0	0
" Spanish	0	0	16	10	0	0
" American	0	0	16	15	0	0

THE IRON TRADE.—To gratify our readers, we give them the particulars of the expenses incurred in producing one ton of No. 2 bar-iron (say merchant bars) from the ore, which, we trust, will be found to approximate as near to truth as is necessary to form an idea:—

Coal, the price of which varies according to circumstances from 3s. 6d. to 4s. per ton—Quantity required to make one ton of bar-iron through all its processes, is about six tons at, say 3s. 9d. per ton	£1 2 6
Quantity of ironstone required to produce one ton of bar-iron is about three and a half tons, ready for being put into the blast-furnace, cannot cost less than 11s. per ton	1 18 6
Limestone—at least	0 2 6
The amount paid in wages to the fireman, together with the expenses for oils, tallow, and all other necessaries, cannot be rated at less than	1 15 0
Expenses incurred in transit to the nearest seaport varies according to distance, but, with agents' salaries, poor-rate, rents, and other incidental expenses, cannot be rated at less, per ton, than	0 5 0

Making a total of £5 3 6
Present price of bar-iron at Cardiff or Newport—say 4 0 0

Leaving the manufacturer at a loss, on every ton made, of £1 3 6
—*Serviced Journal.*

The market for metals has at length improved to some degree, but the great article of

British iron does not yet participate in the advance, although an attempt has been made to obtain 4d. 5s. per ton for bars in Wales. British copper is in greater demand; and a quantity of eighty-four slabs of Banca tin produced 66s. per cwt. The price of spelter is 11s. 10s. for delivery; and Spanish lead is in small supply, and readily saleable at 16s. 10s. per ton.—*Midland Counties Herald.*

February 23.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
SPELTER—Foreign, ton	22	5	0	22	10	0
For delivery	0	0	21	0	0	0
ZINC—English sheet	0	0	30	0	0	0
QUICKSILVER	per lb.	0	4	6		
IRON—English bar, &c.	per ton	3	0	0		
" Nail rods	0	0	6	0	0	0
" Hoops	7	5	0	7	10	0
" Sheets	0	0	0	0	0	0
" Cast in Wales	0	0	4	5	0	0
" Pig, No. 1, Wales	0	0	3	5	0	0
" No. 1, Clyde	0	0	2	5	0	0
" For Swedish	10	5	0	10	5	0
" Russian, c&nd	16	10	0			
" " F&I	0	0	0			
" " Gourieff	0	0	0			
" " Archangel	0	0	0			
STEEL—Swedish	18	5	0			
" " Fagot	0	19	0			
COFFER—English sheathing, lb.	0	0	91			
" Old	per lb.	0	0	81		
" Cake, p. ton	0	0	88	0	0	0
" Tile	0	0	86	0	0	0
" S. American	0	0	77	0	0	0
TIN—English blocks, &c. cwt.	3	12	0			
" Foreign, Banca	3	6	0	3	7	0
" Straits	0	0	3	5	0	0
" Peruvian	0	0	3	0	0	0
Tin plates, No. 1C, p. box	1	4	0	1	4	0
" No. 1X	1	10	0	1	14	0
" waste, p. box less						
LEAD—Sheet metal	p. ton	17	15	0		
" Shot, patent	0	0	19	15	0	0
" Red	0	0	21	10	0	0
" White	0	0	23	10	0	0
Pig-LEAD—English	16	15	0	16	10	0
" Spanish	0	0	16	10	0	0
" American	16	0	0	16	15	0

Orders.

TANDERS delivered for building Coach-houses and Stables, for Thomas Allen, Esq., of Blackheath.—A. Trimmer, Esq., of Adam-street, Architect.—

Whitewash (of Greenwich)	£454	0	0
Clemence (Villiers-street)	453	10	0
Sagden (Bermondsey)	449	12	0

Opened in the presence of the parties.

NOTICES OF CONTRACTS.

For Erecting a new Workhouse at Artid, near Sandbach, Compton Union.—Plans, &c., at the Office of the Clerks of the Union at Compton, and Mr. Henry Bowman, Architect, 47, Princess-street, Manchester: W. and J. Latham, Clerks. March 9.

For Excavating, Puddling, and Building a Gas Pit at No. 5, Gas Station, near Gyllymore, Halmesbury, &c., at Mr. Shortland's Office, Town-hall, Manchester: T. Wrot, Gas Officer. March 4.

For Erecting a Master's House, Boundary walls, &c., in connection with St. Peter's National and Sunday Schools, Union-street, Oldham.—Architect, at Messrs. Butterworth and Whitaker, Architects, Cross-street, Manchester. March 7.

For Sewering, Paving, &c., several streets in Chorlton-upon-Medlock.—Plans, &c., at Langtry's, Surveyor, Town-hall, Chorlton-upon-Medlock: J. Harrow, Town Clerk, 21, Princess-street, Manchester. March 4.

For Erecting and completing Buildings and other Works for Station at Hulms, Manchester, Leeds, and Hall Railway.—Plans, &c., Engineer's Office, Palestine-buildings, Manchester. March 11.

Contract for the Erection of a Town House and Outbuildings on the Charity Farm at Thirbury, near Great Yarmouth.—Mr. A. J. Tiltet, Architect, King-street, Great Yarmouth. March 11.

Contract for Erecting a School-house at Holway, Bath.—Mr. G. P. Manders, Bath. March 7.

Contract for Building a Lock-up House at Totterley, Kent.—Mr. H. A. Wildes, Maidstone. March 11.

Contract for the Erection of a Chapel, and also additional Buildings for female patients, and other alterations to the Kent County Lunatic Asylum.—Mr. G. Foydell, Clerk, Asylum, Maidstone. March 18.

Contract for Building Sewers in Currier-street, Graystone-place, Dean-street, Cook-lane, Smeath-lane, and other places contiguous.—Mr. Jos. Dow, Sewers Office, Guildhall. March 12.

Contract for the Erection of the several Works necessary to be done in the Re-building of Brent Bridge, and repairing Fenchley Bridge, Hamden.—Clerk of the Peace, Sessions House, Clarendon-well-grove. March 24.

Contract for Building new Sewers in Portpool-lane, Leather-lane, Woburn-place, and Great Cornu-street—Messrs. Stable and Lamb, Hutton-garden. March 8.

Contract for better Paving, Repairing, and keeping in order the Stone-curriage and Footway Pavements of the parish of St. Mary-le-Strand.—Mr. G. Truitt, Clerk. March 14.

Contract for supplying Bar Majesty's several Dock-yards with 2,750 loads of English Elm Timber, and 119 Elm Trees for Pumps.—Secretary of the Admiralty. March 19.

Contract for Building Nine fourth-rate Houses.—Mr. Single, 34, Coleman-street, City. March 11.

Contract for Repairing or New Paving the Footways and Carriage-ways, as the Commissioners may appoint, of the parish of St. John the Evangelist, Westminster, for one year, from Lady-day next.—Mr. J. R. L. Walsley, Clerk. March 5.

PARISH OF ST. GEORGE, HANOVER-SQUARE.—Contract for Workmen's Tools and Hammers, Lawn Mowers and other Fittings, and for keeping in order the garden in Hanover-square, for one year from the 25th March. R. Lees, Clerk, Board Room, Mount-street. March 6.

PARISH OF ST. GEORGE, HANOVER-SQUARE.—Contract for Masons' and Paviers' Work, and supply of Guesney Granite Chippings, and Yorkshire Paving, for one year from the 25th March. Mr. R. Lees, Clerk, Board Room, Mount-street. March 6.

Contract for Removing present Wooden Tower, and erecting a Stone Tower in lieu thereof, with other works, at Preston Hospital, near Wellington, Salop.—Plans, &c., E. Haycock, Esq., Architect, Shrewsbury, of Mr. Potter's, Bridgman-place, Walm. March 9, 1844.

TO OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

We have received the communications of "C. S.," "Alpha," "L. O. G.," "Censorius," [who assumes a Latin signature in an English letter somewhat with grammatical errors, (there is a good subject,) and of "One of the London Beavers."]

We have received "A History of British Fossil Mammals and Birds," by Richard Owen, F.R.S., part I.

"Geology: Introductory, Descriptive, and Practical," by David Thomas Ansted, M.A., F.R.S., part I.

"Illustrations of Baptismal Fonts," Van Voort. Parts II., III., IV.

"ION."—The work, we are informed, is at present out of print. The price was 11. 1s.

"T. M. C."—The present price of the work is 81. 8s., and is to be obtained at No. 106, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury.

The fresh communication of "G. R. F." upon "Anecdotes" we have received, and have put it amid its requisite illustrations.

The article "Echinos," from "G. R. F.," will appear in our next Number, if our engraver complete his work in time.

"J. L. T."—The beautiful example of a Welsh font has been received. With the other details of it, we would like to have a plan or horizontal section of its base.

We have received SPECIMENS OF DECORATIONS, IN THE ITALIAN STYLE, SELECTED FROM THE DEBANS OF RAFFAELLO, IN THE VATICAN PALACE AT ROME.

We have received the drawings of the ARMBRIST LEVIANT, but cannot insert them till we have a description of the building, and the names and purposes of the different words.

We have received the drawings of the proposed Hythe Pier, and those for Scroble and Cartmel-steps, and intend to have them engraved.

ERRATA.—No. LV., page 93, 3rd column, line 23, for "Censor" read "Censor."
In page 23, 3rd column, line 31, for "frustrum" read "frustum."